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COCOM Document 3416.31/7

Date: June 15, 1959

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d. List  
PolicyCOORDINATING COMMITTEEMEMORANDUM FROM THE UNITED STATES DELEGATIONConcerningCOLD ROLLED GRAIN ORIENTED SILICON ELECTRICAL STEEL (IL-1631)

References: COCOM 3416.31/1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Revised, and 6

1. The United States has studied but cannot agree to the proposal made by the French delegation on June 4 to provide for the coverage of grain oriented strip and sheet (Doc 3416.31/6). Further, it is not understood whether this proposal is intended to cover all grain oriented strip and sheet of 0.30 mm and under regardless of core loss or whether it is designed to apply only to grain oriented strip and sheet with the core loss specified in 1631(e). However, in either case the proposal is unacceptable to the United States.

2. The United States is also unable to agree with the French contention that 1631(a) is not intended to include grain oriented silicon steel. The crucial point, according to United States technicians, is that the grain oriented sheet and strip covered by 1631(e) is for use at 50 or 60 cycles whereas the ultra thin oriented electrical sheet covered by 1631(a) is for use at 400 to 200,000 cycles and the non-oriented grade covered by sub-item (a) is for use in the range of 200 to 80,000 cycles. United States technicians know of no way to calculate the core loss for this high-frequency sheet in terms of the definition of 1631(e) and therefore do not consider its coverage under 1631(e) to be logical.

3. Subsequent to the submission of the French proposal, the United States has developed recent intelligence information which strongly indicates that the best grades of electrical steel the U.S.S.R. can or does produce in any significant quantity are 0.31 mm (0.012 inches) and 0.36 mm (0.014 inches) in thickness. These grades, which are the best available for Soviet military use, are now embargoed by the core loss specifications of item 1631(e) as presently defined. They would, however, be lost by the French re-definition proposal contained in Document 3416.31/2 and would not be caught by the addition proposed by the French delegation on June 4 (Document 3416.31/6). The United States is convinced that these grades should remain under embargo since, because of the bloc's limited ability to produce superior grades, they are of primary military use to the Soviets.

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4. In view of the foregoing and to cover also the points of concern presented in Document 3416.31/5, the United States delegation presents for the Committee's consideration the following redefinition proposals:

1631(a) Thickness of 0.30 mm (0.01181 inches) or less

1631(e) Core loss of 1.36 watt per Kg. or less  
(0.62 watt per Lb. or less) at  $B = 15,000$   
gausses and 50 cycles per second for silicon  
steels / core loss of 1 watt per Kg. or less  
(0.45 watt per lb. or less) at  $B = 13,000$   
gausses and 50 cycles /.

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